

Amendments to the Specification:

Please change the title of the subject application to “Three-Way Stopcock”.

Please replace the Abstract of the subject application with the following amended Abstract:

A 3-way stopcock ~~which is intended for sanitary medical use~~ is described and includes comprising a body or nucleus (1) wherein a principal ~~channel arm~~ (2) and two secondary arms (3, 3') converge and a plug or stopper (4) acting inside said ~~the~~ body or nucleus (1). According to the invention, said ~~the~~ two secondary arms (3, 3') present initial curved flexible segments (3a, 3'a) having a high elastic index, which respectively extend into parallel final distal segments (3b, 3'b).

Please replace paragraph [0001] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The ~~present following~~ invention is a 3-way stopcock, useful used in the medical field, in which ~~of its arms or channels attaches~~ attach to an intravenous catheter or needle while ~~the~~ other arms are used for administration of intravenous fluids.

Please replace paragraph [0002] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0002] The object of the invention is to achieve an optimal functioning 3-way stopcock, obtaining an improvement in the way the arms or channels ~~related~~ relate to intravenous bottles or containers, which hold therapeutic products. Another objective is to attain greater adaptability of the stopcock to the needs of the patient.

Please replace paragraph [0004] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] The Spanish utility patent U200302098 U 2002 02098 (ES-U-1 052 679) describes a 3-way stopcock that is characterized by two secondary arms or routes that emerge from a nucleus forming orthogonal elbows in its trajectory.

Please replace paragraph [0005] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] As known, ~~nevertheless~~ medications and nutrients administered to patients intravenously are solutions consisting fundamentally of solid micro-elements in liquid state[.]. These the micro-elements can become deposited on ~~deposit in~~ the walls of the arms or channels thus impairing adequate flow of liquids. Therefore, the presence of ~~octagonal orthogonal~~ elbows in the stopcock described in the previously-mentioned patent can present ~~above-mentioned-previously-poses~~ the difficult to eliminate ~~problem of occlusion of the arms or channels that are difficult to eliminate~~. This problem has negative consequences on intravenous therapy because the medication that goes to the patient needs to be administered in a specific ~~pass in determined~~ period of time.

Please replace paragraph [0006] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Another problem[.] ~~presented by the previously described~~ is reduced flexibility offered by the ~~stated stopcock having with the presence of octagonal orthogonal elbows is reduced flexibility~~. For example, ~~for the situation where when~~ medical sanitary personnel need to manipulate the ~~manipulates~~ these arms or channels, e.g., during changing of intravenous containers or bottles ~~which contain~~ containing intravenous therapy products or well, to disconnect a secondary line from the feeding ~~(support?) main~~ catheter, ~~comes to damage~~ can occur to the principal arm ~~connexion~~ connection with the intravenous catheter, and thus affecting the supplying of these products. ~~Keeping in mind that said~~ Because the principal arm is directly connected to the catheter inserted previously in the patient's vein, ~~which implies that any manipulation on the remaining secondary arms will significantly affect the~~ intravenous ~~connexion~~ connection, producing pressure leaks. Therefore, in view of this problem, it is necessary would be desirable to have a 3-way stopcock in which the secondary arms ~~should in~~ addition be are flexible.

Please delete paragraph [0014] of the specification, and replace with the following paragraph:

[0014] While certain embodiments/aspects of the present disclosure are described herein, other

embodiments/aspects according to the present disclosure will become readily apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description, wherein exemplary embodiments are shown and described by way of illustration. In the drawings:

Please replace paragraph [0018] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] ~~With reference to FIGS. 1-3, In accordance with the cited figures, specially in FIG. 1,~~ it can be observed how the 3-way stopcock consists of a cylindrical body or nucleus (1) in which the plug or stopper (4) works and where the principal arm or channel (2) a it's two secondary arms (3,3') meet or converge. Between these three arms they communicate or not depending on the position that the plug (4) adopts, which is operated by health care workers via the handle (5). As stated before, the principal arm (2) is assigned to receive an intravenous catheter (11) placed in the patient, while the secondary arms or channels (3, 3') are assigned to receive other catheters or lines (10,10'), whereupon relating the stopcock of the invention with some containers supplying therapeutic fluids, for example: saline solution, antibiotics or any other equal products.